

FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

In Area no.	Form no.
B	77



City Lexington

Address 23 Bedford Street

Name Ryan-Hinchey House

Present use Dwelling

Present owner George Rowe

Description:

c. 1865

Source (on 1889 map)

Style Italianate

Architect _____

Exterior wall fabric Aluminum siding

Outbuildings (describe) _____

Other features Front gable-hip roof 3 above

2 windows- ell in rear-stick work porch-
field stone foundation-overhang &-brackets
addition on right side

Altered _____ Date _____

Moved _____ Date _____

5. Lot size:

One acre or less _____ Over one acre _____

Approximate frontage 40'

Approximate distance of building from street

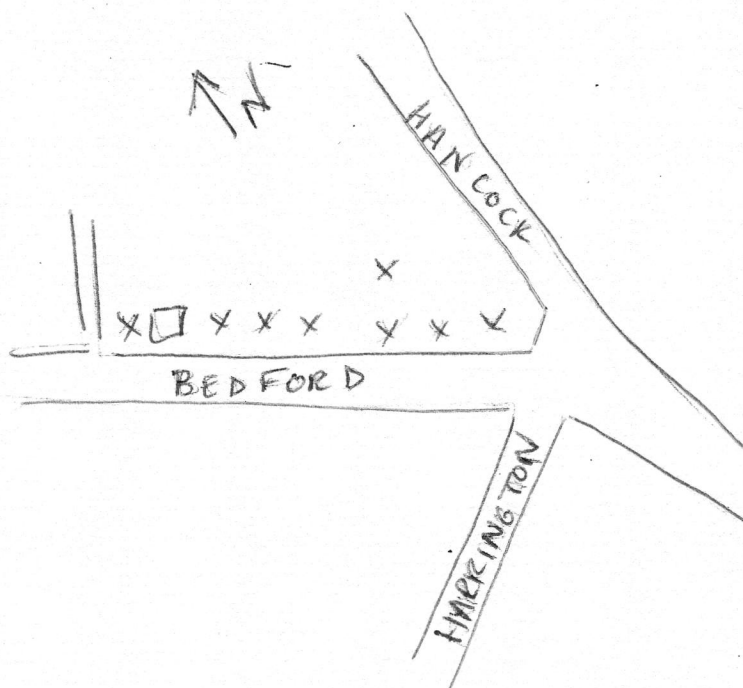
12'

6. Recorded by Ruth Beebe

Organization Lexington Hist. Com.

Date Aug. 27, 1975

4. Map. Draw sketch of building location in relation to nearest cross streets and other buildings. Indicate north.



DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE
USGS Quadrant _____

MHC Photo no. _____

(over)

7. Original owner (if known) John Ryan

Original use _____

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates _____

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

Aboriginal	_____	Conservation	_____	Recreation	_____
Agricultural	_____	Education	_____	Religion	_____
Architectural	_____	Exploration/	_____	Science/	_____
The Arts	_____	settlement	_____	invention	_____
Commerce	_____	Industry	_____	Social/	_____
Communication	_____	Military	_____	humanitarian	_____
Community development	_____	Political	_____	Transportation	_____

9. Historical significance (include explanation of themes checked above)

10. Bibliography and/or references (such as local histories, deeds, assessor's records, early maps, etc.)

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Town
LEXINGTON

Property Address
23 BEDFORD ST.

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

B	77
---	----

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE:

This house reportedly dates to about 1865. It is shown on the 1889 map as being owned by J. Ryan. Directories indicate that John Ryan was a farmer. He was born in County Cook, Ireland in 1838. His 1905 obituary states that he had been a resident of Lexington for fifty years and that he had lived in this house on Bedford Street for forty years. He was one of the oldest Catholic residents in the town at the time of his death and was a member of St. Bridget's Church (*Minute-man*, April 8, 1905).

John Ryan's daughter Mary Ann married John Hinchey in 1896 and the couple continued to live here after John Ryan's death. Mrs. Hinchey was still living here in 1928.

Joseph and Maude Swan were the owners/occupants by 1932 and the family continued to own the property until 1972.

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

Hudson, Charles. *History of the Town of Lexington*. Cambridge: The Riverside Press Co., 1913, vol. 2, p. 601.
Lexington directories, various dates.
Lexington Minute-man, April 8, 1905.
Middlesex County Register of Deeds, Cambridge, Mass.
1853 & 1889 Lexington maps.

Supplement prepared by:
Lisa Mausolf
July 2009